Air Pollution by Vehicular Exhausts In Delhi

1667. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether surveys conducted by 8 monitoring stations have shown that 40 per cent of air pollution is caused by vehicular exhausts in Delhi as reported in the 'Times of India' of the 10th October, 1986; if so, what are the details thereof and corrective action taken, such as intimation to the concerned owners for correction; and

(b) whether it is a fact that many DTC buses on the roads have high emission of smoke despite installation of 26 smoke analysers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir; Surveys were conducted in 8 traffic junctions of Delhi. These are:

(1) Kingsway Camp;

(2) I. S. B. T.;

(3) Ashram Chowk;

(4) Raja Garden, Ring Road;

(5) Safdarjung Road Junction;

(6) Janpath, Palika Bazar;

(7) Radhu Cinema Chowk, Sahadara; and

(8) I.T.O. Bridge.

According to the surveys, concentrations of pollutants from vehicular exhausts were above the prescribed limits. The steps taken include the following:

(1) Emission standards have been prescribd for phased implementation;

(2) Concerned authorities have been directed to comply with recommended vehicle maintenance schedule; and

(3) Campaigns have been launched for creating public awareness.

(b) Among the many vehicles which contribute towards air pollution, DTC buses are a major contributor. Establishment of smoke analysers does not reduce air pollution but only help in its measurement.

Reported Analysis of Employment Targets of the Current Plan

1668. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the analysis of employment targets in the Seventh Five Year Plan which appeared in the 'Economic Times' of 22nd October, 1986 regarding generation of employment in extremely low productivity activities; if so, what are the details in his regard; and

(b) whether the imbalances, if any, between agricultural and non-agricultural Sector are likely to be overcome in view of the need to ensure maximum utilisation of labour force for highest productivity in order to compete in the international markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Copies of the article "Seventh Plan Employment Targets" by Shri V. N. Kothari, published in 'Economic Times' dated 22nd October, 1986 are placed in the Parliament Library.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Seventh Plan seeks to reconcile the imperatives of the maximum possible utilisation of our labour force and the need to promote productivity and enhance international competitiveness of our economy.

Technological capabilities are of critical importance particularly in strategic sectors of the economy, such as energy, space and communication, to improve productivity and to build an internationally competitive industrial structure. The Seventh Plan marks a systematic beginning for raising the scientific and technological infrastructure to a qualitatively higher level as a major component of our strategy for self-reliance.